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THIS WEEK

October 31, 2005

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LEAVES OF FALL—Larry Rich with Facilities Management picks up some of the season's first leaves outside Eureka Hall Thursday. University greenery is soon to be transformed into a riot of color as many of the campus' more than 3,000 trees feel the effects of fall. Facilities Management feels the effects as well, picking up around 100 tons of leaves during the season.

Plan to link campus with light rail on track

The campus community is open to getting on campus without a car, according to preliminary results of a transportation survey—and campus efforts to provide a key solution are on track.

[Full Story](#)

Project has students probing memories of Oak Park residents

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[Full Story](#)

Debby Colberg: Serving up victories

What keeps the most successful coach in Sacramento State history from bolting to greener pastures? She hasn't found any.

[Full Story](#)



SACRAMENTO
STATE

Leadership begins here.

New Music Festival

The Festival of New American Music returns to the Sacramento State campus for its 28th year Nov. 3 to 13. The event features performances, classes and lectures from national, local and Sacramento State new music artists and composers. All events are open to the public and nearly all are free.

Details: www.csus.edu/events.

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PROFILE



30-Year Profile: Jana Shober

Snakes, spiders and slimy things don't scare Jana Shober, a lab technician that supervises the care of the biology department's animals.

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Blues depicts decline of Harlem Renaissance

Pearl Cleage's award-winning play about the end of the Harlem Renaissance, *Blues for an Alabama Sky*, will take the stage at Sacramento State at 8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 18 in the Playwrights' Theatre in Shasta Hall.
[Full Story](#)

Events Calendar

ATHLETICS

Haupt earns First Big Sky Player of the Week Award

Sacramento State sophomore Lindsay Haupt has been named Big Sky Conference Volleyball Player of the Week after leading the Hornets to three-game sweeps of Montana and Montana State.

[Full Story](#)

Hornet Sports

Sacramento State Bulletin

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Plan to link campus with light rail on track

The campus community is open to getting on campus without a car, according to preliminary results of a transportation survey—and campus efforts to provide a key solution are on track.

Of the more than 2,500 faculty, staff and students who responded to a University Enterprises survey in the spring, 53 percent said they would ride light rail to or from campus if there was a convenient street car option between the station and campus, says Matt Altier, vice president for capital planning and resource development and executive director of University Enterprises. To meet that need, plans are underway to develop a transportation system to link the 65th Street light rail station with the University with various stops on the campus interior.

The new system would be a bus rapid transit, or BRT, similar to one used at the University of Oregon. The BRT looks much like a light rail car but doesn't require the rail system, making it about half as expensive to construct. The BRT has rubberized wheels and usually runs on a designated concrete or asphalt travel way but can also run on a regular roadway.

Initial plans call for the BRT loop to go from the Light Rail station, along 65th St., through the Hornet Crossing tunnel, and continue along State University Drive. The campus loop would circle the campus interior to serve all major destinations, such as the residence halls, Hornet Bookstore, the University Union, the Library, Hornet Stadium, the Alumni Center and the future Recreation, Wellness and Events Center. Eventually, it will also make a stop at the faculty-staff village as part of the City of Sacramento's plan to extend Ramona Avenue.

Each BRT can hold as many as 40 passengers and Altier says he anticipates having three to four BRTs in service at a time so that it will run every five to seven minutes. Of those survey respondents who said they would consider using the proposed street car system, 91 percent indicated that frequency/availability would be a major factor and 70 said time savings would be a major factor.

More than half the survey respondents indicated they are considering a switch to another method of transportation: 28 percent are considering the bus and 35 percent are considering Light Rail. Lisa Hall, director of planning and resource development for University Enterprises, says those numbers would likely be much higher today because the survey was taken in the spring before the completion of Light Rail service to Folsom and before the most recent spikes in gasoline prices.

Other preliminary findings from the campus transportation survey included:

- 68 percent of responses came from students.
- Only 10 percent of respondents currently ride Light Rail and of those 90 percent use the 65th St. station.
- Fewer than 20 percent of respondents said they leave campus during the day for lunch or errands.
- 58 percent of survey respondents drive to campus alone every time. Of those who drive 72 percent say they do because it is convenient. Only 33 percent said it is the only type of transportation available to them.
- Of those who don't drive to campus, 55 percent say it is because parking is too hard to find and 48 percent say the cost of parking is too high.

University Enterprises is pursuing the potential for a SACOG (Sacramento Area Council of Governments) grant for design and engineering funding for the project. Altier says they also plan to

look at federal and state program funding opportunities. If the funding is made available and project planning continues on target, the new system could be up and running in two to three years.

Currently, students can ride Regional Transit light rail and buses for free by showing their One Card. Faculty and staff can buy passes for \$10 per six-month period (January-June and July-December.)

For more information, contact University Enterprises at 278-7001. For information on commute choices and RT passes, visit the University Transportation and Parking Services website at www.csus.edu/utaps.

— Laurie Hall

Project has students probing memories of Oak Park residents

Sacramento's Oak Park neighborhood has faced dynamic, conflicting forces throughout its history: prosperity, crime waves, economic decline, the Civil Rights movement, and recently, extensive community collaboration for change and a local cultural revival. Urban geography professor Robin Datel and her students are looking into Oak Park's past, doing field work to promote the good—and sometimes overlooked—aspects of the area, and to help find solutions to lingering issues.

"The purpose of the project is to record place-based memories of Oak Parkers, or memories attached to the area," Datel says. "We use those memories to celebrate the past, understand the dynamics of neighborhood change, and build a better Oak Park with today's residents."

This ongoing service-learning project for a geography field class has students digging through old city directories and property records at the local archives to study business trends, residential patterns and the ethnic makeup of the region from the 1920s onward.

In the spring, for example, one student made regional maps that highlight land-use issues such as liquor sales and non-taxable property, which the Oak Park Neighborhood Association used in their presentations to the Sacramento City Council. Others conducted in-depth interviews with local residents to record their personal memories of experiences in Oak Park.

Students interviewed former and current businesspeople, residents and volunteers from the neighborhood association—such as Underground Bookstore manager Georgia "Mother Rose" West, mother of former NBA star and Oak Park redevelopment advocate Kevin Johnson; William Lee, founder of *The Sacramento Observer*, the first African American newspaper in Sacramento; and local residents—during walking tours, in cafes, or in their homes.

"One of our goals is for students to record the history of those who are still alive, what they can remember," says Datel, who hopes to compile these bits of history for a walking tour pamphlet for neighborhood visitors and residents. "They connect the present to the past and connect the older Oak Park residents with those who have no experience of local history."

A white, working-class suburb until the 1950s, Oak Park received an influx of African Americans and other minorities after the city of Sacramento tore down many low-income housing units near the Sacramento River, Datel says.

"Racial change coincided with a change in the local economy—people moving in had a lower income than people moving out," Datel says. "Many businesses left, taking jobs with them. All this led to

more poverty and the problems that come with it: crime, drugs, prostitution and absentee landlords.”

Students said they learned more about the historical significance of the area, studying sites such as the first gay church in Sacramento, the meeting point of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s, and the local office of the Black Panther Party.

“I wanted to learn how Sacramento has changed and about Oak Park, a place I’d never seen,” says geography major Micah Nisito, who signed up for the class to get hands-on experience studying urban landscapes.

“I saw the different options for helping out the community, and got to learn about the people, not just their environment,” says geography major Lisa Peterson, who wants to work for Sacramento’s city planning division after college.

— *Jaclyn Schultz*

Debby Colberg: Serving up victories

What keeps the most successful coach in Sacramento State history from bolting to greener pastures? She hasn’t found any.

Head volleyball coach Debby Colberg says that no school has offered her what she has found at her alma mater. “I like it here,” she says. “I have looked into other jobs but it would have to be something much more attractive.”

Before she set school records for wins, tournament appearances and coach of the year honors, Colberg was a student athlete herself, working toward a teaching credential. She played on Hornet volleyball, basketball and softball teams, and actually saw herself as more of a basketball player. “In those days women tended to play more than one sport,” she says.

After graduating in 1970, Colberg was teaching middle school when something brought her back to Sacramento State for a master’s degree. Perhaps it was destiny—or maybe it was the four years in middle school. But when she returned the position of volleyball coach was open, providing both a part-time job and a hint at her ultimate career.

Later the position became full-time and Colberg has never looked back. “Sometimes fate puts you in a place. My husband suggested I get a master’s and he was able to support me. It got me here.”

She says she has never has regretted leaving her middle school gig as she prefers the challenge of working with elite athletes.

Like most successful coaches, Colberg doesn’t linger in the past. Though she admits her two national championships—in 1980 and 1981—were special, she says that she doesn’t have a favorite memory. “There are so many. There are specific matches you remember—those you didn’t expect to win, and you’d win,” she says. “But I tend to live more in the moment. My favorite team is always the one I am presently coaching.”

She mostly enjoys the overall sense of progress her teams have made over time.

If you were to pick Colberg's brain, attempting to duplicate her success with players, you might come away dissatisfied. Colberg's impact on athletes is hers alone. "I look for talent obviously, athletic ability. But I'm a pretty good teacher," she says.

But she also looks for a good fit—personality, academics, work ethic. "If they're the right person, I can work with them. If they're not strong academically, I try to find out why they aren't. If they're working hard, we may take a chance. But if they're not trying, I will most likely look elsewhere."

Colberg's winning run has helped players find her as well. "That's the fun of it, getting the better player," she says. "You look like a brilliant coach if you bring in a better athlete."

It's also hard to pin Colberg down to explain what has made her successful. "It's hard for me to say," she says. "My teaching background has certainly helped. And I think I have a good dose of common sense."

Her assistant coach Ruben Volta says it because players respond to her as a disciplinarian, an assessment she supports.

"I walk a line," she says. "I can give them a push in the back in such a way as to not alienate them and not make them hate to come to practice. I want it to be a positive experience.

"I can't make them enjoy doing sprints. But I can make other things fun. I try to treat them as I would want to be treated."

As a former Sacramento State student who has guided scores of women through the volleyball program, Colberg has seen a lot of changes in women's athletics but feels more changes are coming. She would like future changes for women's athletics to be based on what is actually best for female athletes—not necessarily following the male model of athletics.

"I truly believe in the educational value of athletics and I hope that players under my tutelage will appreciate all the opportunities Sacramento State has to offer as an educational institution. And I hope their experiences as a volleyball athlete complement what they learn on the academic side."

Despite all her success, Colberg is far from complacent. "We still have challenges. That's the nice thing about Division I."

Campus continues to aid Katrina victims

The Hornet Bookstore reports that through the generosity of faculty, staff, students and community customers, \$1,938 was collected in the bookstore for the Hurricane Relief Fund. The relief initiative, which was part of an overall effort by the Follett Higher Education Group, operator of the Hornet Bookstore, started Sept. 2 and ended Oct. 15.

In total, more than \$208,000 was raised in Follett stores with all donations being forwarded to the American Red Cross to help residents of the Gulf Coast states rebuild their homes and lives.

And over the weekend, student and faculty from the University's Physical Therapy department held a walkathon to benefit the physical therapy program at Louisiana State University. About 40 students walked in McKinley Park with the goal of raising 880.6 dollars—one for each mile between the

Sacramento State and LSU campuses. The event was part of countrywide effort in recognition of National Physical Therapy Week.

The LSU program is temporarily operating out of a physical therapy clinic in Baton Rouge after Hurricane Katrina destroyed its teaching hospital and buried the health science building that houses the physical therapy program several feet deep in mud, destroying computers, equipment and books. Checks can be made out to: LSU Health Science Foundation with "Physical Therapy" in the memo, and sent to the Sacramento State Physical Therapy department at mail stop 6020.

Exhibit, reception promoting adoption coming to Gallery

The Heart Gallery Project of Sacramento will highlight the opening of its exhibit of professional photographs of children awaiting adoption with a reception for prospective adoptive parents on Nov. 5 from 5-7 p.m. in the Sacramento State Library Gallery. The photo exhibit opens Nov. 1 and continues through Nov. 23 in the Library Gallery.

The exhibit will feature more than three dozen photos of Sacramento-area children ages 7 to 15 who are in foster care and are hard to place with adoptive families because of their ages.

"These children need families and sometimes that can be difficult," said Rosemary Papa, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Sacramento State, who helped establish the Heart Gallery project in Sacramento earlier this year. "The children are a little older and in many cases they have siblings, and you don't want to break up families."

Papa said the public is invited to the Nov. 5 reception to view the photos and talk with social workers who will be on hand to answer questions about adopting the children. Some of the children in the photos will attend.

The event, part of activities during National Adoption Month in November, will feature a talk by author Michelle Madrid-Branch, who has written books for parents on explaining adoption issues to children. The master of ceremonies for the evening will be retired news anchor Stan Atkinson.

Following an article published in *Parade* earlier this year about a special exhibit of photos of children waiting to be adopted, Heart Gallery projects have been created by volunteers across the country. Papa worked with about a dozen faculty and staff members at Sacramento State and others to start the Heart Gallery project in Sacramento. The local effort also includes volunteers from Sierra Adoption Services, Sacramento County Child Protective Services, Lilliputian Children's Services and Court-appointed Special Advocates of Sacramento. Papa said that the exhibit represents a fraction of the children awaiting adoption in Sacramento County. In all, more than 1,700 children are waiting for homes, she said.

The Library Gallery will be open until 8 p.m. on Nov. 13 as part of the Second Saturday gallery stroll.

For more information, call Papa at 278-5945.

Faculty Senate schedule

Tuesday, Nov. 1

1:30 p.m., Curriculum Policies Committee, University Union Orchard Suite

3 p.m., Executive Committee

3 p.m., University ARTP Committee, University Union Capital Suite

Wednesday, Nov. 2

1 p.m., Faculty Policies Committee

2:30 p.m., Visiting Scholars Subcommittee, Library 4026—tentative

All meetings are in Sacramento Hall 275 unless otherwise noted.

Professional Activities

Recognition

Frank Whitlatch has been named associate vice president for Public Affairs after serving in the position on an interim basis since January. Whitlatch has been with the Public Affairs office since 1996 and was previously responsible for the news services unit. He will act as the University's media spokesperson and oversee efforts to enhance the University's reputation and build community support. He will also continue to implement the University's new identity package as well as direct strategic communications efforts to advance the goals of Destination 2010.

Scholarship

Anthony M. Platt, social work, had his co-authored book, *Bloodlines: Recovering Hitler's Nuremberg Laws, from Patton's Trophy to Public Memorial*, published by Paradigm Publishers. An on-campus book event is scheduled for Dec. 7.

Candace Gregory, History, presented a conference paper on *Queer Eye For Sherwood Forest: Sexual Ambiguity and the Male Gender in the Cinematic Robin Hood* at the Robin Hood Symposium at the University of Delaware on Oct. 1. Her interview on crusade films was issued as an extra on the *Kingdom of Heaven* DVD, released Oct. 11.

Nick Trujillo, Communication Studies, was an invited speaker at the University of South Florida. He gave a lecture titled "Writing with the Dead" about the book he is co-authoring with his wife on her cancer and death.

Craig Gallet, Economics, had his paper entitled "Health Information and Cigarette Consumption: Supply and Spatial Considerations" accepted in the journal *Empirica*.

Richard Adams, English, and **Tom Knutson**, Communication Studies, made a presentation on intercultural communication competence at the Royal Chitralada Palace School in Bangkok, Thailand. Adams and Knutson have arranged for Sacramento State students to travel to Thailand and serve as student teachers of English at the Royal Chitralada Palace School, an institution founded by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

News Digest

Communication and service skills workshops

Staff interested in sharpening their communication and service skills for workplace communication can attend a set of three workshops taking place Nov. 1-3 at Napa Hall.

- Workshop 1, 8 a.m. to noon, Nov. 1, focuses on interpersonal interaction.
- Workshop 2, 8 a.m. to noon, Nov. 2, focuses on competencies for listening and information sharing.
- Workshop 3, 8 a.m. to noon, Nov. 3, builds on the previous days' topics and provides an integrated approach to managing conflict and conducting meetings.

Participants should plan to attend all three workshops, as each workshop builds on topics presented the previous day.

To register, visit www.cce.csus.edu/csustraining.

Air quality grants available

Valley CAN (Clean Air Now), a non-profit advocacy group committed to improving air quality in communities throughout the San Joaquin Valley, has \$200,000 available for grants for the remainder of the fiscal year. Past grants have ranged from \$5,000 to \$100,000 mostly for projects aimed at cleaning up the air, helping individuals make clean-air choices or promoting air quality action in government and industry.

Applications for this year's funds should be received by Nov. 10. For application information and forms, visit www.Valley-CAN.org.

Details: 443-3354 or (559) 438-2040.

Indigenous nations documentary

Visiting scholar Roberto Rodriguez, doctoral candidate at the University of Wisconsin, will present a free screening of his documentary *Amoxthli San Ce ToJuan: We Are One* at 9 a.m., Monday, Nov. 7, in the University Union Summit Room. A post-film discussion with Rodriguez will follow and copies of the film will be available for purchase.

The film chronicles the migration of seven major indigenous nations across the Americas over the last 10,000 years and shows the interconnectedness of all indigenous people of the Americas. This event is co-sponsored by Counselor Education and Bilingual/Multicultural Education faculty.

Remembrance for Vernon Hornback

The Sacramento State Department of English invites the University community to a "Celebration of Life" in honor of Vernon T. Hornback, Jr. from 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 11 at the University Library Gallery.

Details: Sheree Meyer at 278-5745

Try out for *Monologues*

The Women's Resource Center will hold open auditions for the 2006 performances of *The Vagina Monologues* at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 15 in the Women's Resource Center, Library 1010. The auditions are open to all female students and no acting experience needed. An auditioning monologue will be provided.

Details: Women's Resource Center at 278-7388.

Guerilla gorillas bring feminist fight to campus

Don't be offended when a bunch of gorillas take the stage at Sacramento State and start flinging the "F" word around. The gorillas are actually women in costume and the word they'll be using is "feminism." The highly traveled and popular Guerilla Girls will appear at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17 in the University Union Ballroom.

The Guerilla Girls is an organization of feminist women who tour the world speaking out about the gender and racial prejudice that women have faced, especially in the entertainment and art industries. The activist group satirically disguises themselves in gorilla masks and costumes and uses aliases of deceased female artists such as Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keefe and Gertrude Stein.

Founded in 1985, the Girls have created numerous books, posters and stickers that aim to expose society's stereotypes of women. The formation of the Girls was inspired by the lack of women artists showcased in a 1985 art show at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

For more information, log on to the Guerilla Girls website at www.guerillagirls.com. For tickets, contact the Sacramento State Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323. For media assistance, contact the Sacramento State Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

Top artists to perform at 28th New Music Festival

One of the nation's longest-running annual events dedicated to contemporary music, the Festival of New American Music, returns to the Sacramento State campus for its 28th year Nov. 3 to 13.

National, local and Sacramento State new music artists and composers will perform at venues ranging from the University's Music Recital Hall to Sacramento Grand Ballroom. Other offerings include forums with composers, classes taught by performers and presentations at area community colleges and schools. All events are open to the public and nearly all are free.

The festival's gala opening concert, simulcast on Capital Public Radio's KXPR 90.9 FM, starts the 11-day event at 8 p.m., Nov. 3 in the Sacramento Grand Ballroom at 629 J St.

Headlining visiting performers include jazz trombonist Wayne Wallace, who has played with greats like Sonny Rollins, McCoy Tyner and the Count Basie Orchestra; guitar virtuoso David Starobin, known for his innovative approach to contemporary music; and soprano Kathleen Roland, whose work spans the world of opera, orchestral and contemporary music.

Nearly 20 additional visiting composers are set to present major modern musical works as well as discuss their compositions in forums and pre-concert talks. The lineup includes festival keynote speaker Richard Felciano, an award-winning composer and UC Berkeley professor emeritus; Richard Festinger, a founding director of Earplay; cellist and performance artist Joan Jeanrenaud; and percussionist David Colson.

Ensembles performing include the New Century Saxophone Quartet and Kairos, a group known for its improvisational music. The New York New Music Ensemble, a voice in the field of new music for nearly 30 years and the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players will also take the stage.

Artists from Sacramento State include the Festival Ensemble, a faculty group with local artists; the Sacramento State Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the Sacramento State Percussion Group. The

Sacramento State Jazz Ensemble and the Latin Jazz Ensemble will perform with Wayne Wallace at the festival's final performance at 8 p.m., Nov. 13 in the Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall.

A full schedule of events, classes and forums is available at www.csus.edu/events. For more information, call the Sacramento State music department at (916) 278-5155. Media assistance is from the Sacramento State Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

30-year Profile: Jana Shober

Snakes, spiders and slimy things don't scare Jana Shober, a lab technician who supervises the care of the biology department's animals. Shober and her student assistants typically have their work cut out for them, taking care of a number of creatures and setting up experiments for students in biology labs.

Shober's responsibilities include teaching pre-vet students to care for a variety of the department's animals, which include tarantulas, geckos, an iguana and a chinchilla.

"This class allows pre-vet students to work with animals, many of which are exotic," Shober says. "Most students that work with vets only get to handle dogs, cats, and maybe a turtle. Students learn new skills while helping us care for the animals, and it's a win-win situation."

Shober, a Czech immigrant who started as a graduate assistant at Sacramento State in 1981, says she recalls when a professor's salamander became the biology department's first animal.

"Now we have three rooms full of different animals," Shober says. "If people ask, 'Do they bite?' I say, 'They can.'"

The department keeps a number of native-Californian species, such as the king snake, which Shober says students can encounter on local bike paths. The department also houses invertebrates of all sorts: centipedes, walking sticks, hissing cockroaches, and her favorite, the millipedes.

Although supervising the care of the animals is an important task, Shober's main responsibility is the preparation of lower division labs, growing plants and algae, fungi and protozoa in a room adjoining her office for student use in the classroom and labs. She works in tandem with full-time technicians in the greenhouse, microbiology labs, physiology labs and the invertebrate museum.

"The whole technical staff carries out work that may not be readily apparent to the students," Shober says. "Students—and I used to be one of them—do not realize the hours and hours of preparation done by the staff and student assistants."

Shober, who says she hasn't thought much about retirement, likes the variety her job provides and the fact that there's always something new to learn and explore.

"I've never felt bored in my position, since there's always something new to learn," Shober says. "It's ever-changing, and you have to keep up with the changes as they happen."

During the summer, Shober teaches classes such as zoology and "Blood and Guts" to middle-school kids in the Academic Talent Search. "Teaching allows me to do my regular job better, as I see what kind of support teachers need by doing it," Shober says.

Shober's hobbies include photography which she practices on her excursions to places such as the Amazon, the Peruvian mountains, Thailand and other countries.

"Seeing new places, experiencing other cultures and connecting, even if briefly and often non-verbally, with the people in these fascinating places is what brings me the greatest joy and fulfills me," Shober says.

—Jaclyn Schultz

***Blues* depicts decline of Harlem Renaissance**

Pearl Cleage's award-winning play about the end of the Harlem Renaissance, *Blues for an Alabama Sky*, will take the stage at Sacramento State at 8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 18 in the Playwrights' Theatre in Shasta Hall. Performances continue at 8 p.m., Nov. 19 and Dec. 1 to 3, and at 2 p.m., Nov. 20 and Dec. 4. A special-priced performance will be at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 30.

Blues tells the story of several struggling Harlemites who try to hold on to their dreams as the Great Depression threatens their livelihoods. Through characters such as "Angel," the impoverished jazz club singer, "Guy," a gay costume designer who dreams of dressing Josephine Baker in Paris, and "Delia," an idealistic social worker, the play addresses complex issues of the time such as economic hardship, homosexuality and abortion within the African American community.

"The play presents a group of African Americans who are young, enormously talented, and very diverse in terms of their personalities and interests, which is not always the most prominent public picture of black life in America," says director and theater professor Melinda Wilson. "I also wanted to do *Blues* because it revolves around the theme of rebirth that connects to my and the students' goal of revitalizing the black theater program on campus."

Tickets are \$15 general, \$12 for Sacramento State students and staff and \$10 for seniors and children under 18. Tickets for the special showing at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 30 are \$8 general and \$5 for students and seniors. They are available through the Sacramento State Ticket Office at 278-4323 or Tickets.com.

For more information, contact the Department of Theatre and Dance at 278-6368.